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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1980

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From: Cyrus Vance

Subject: Presidential Determination to Provide Funds from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund

This memorandum recommends that you approve a draw-down of \$5.3 million from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund to help finance assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has launched an urgent appeal for \$55 million to finance a program of assistance for 500,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The United States is publicly committed to contributing one-third of the cost of this program and has already contributed \$5.3 million in food and related freight towards this program. In order to speed relief to these refugees, however, the High Commissioner requires cash or supplies and commodities essential to refugee relief. (A contribution in kind allows the United States to receive the benefits of a visible involvement in this program.)

Consequently, I believe that the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund should be drawn down by \$5.3 million.

Of this amount, up to \$5 million will be provided in goods or cash to the High Commissioner. The balance will be available for grants to private voluntary agencies which are involved in providing immediate relief aid to the refugees. I also believe that this cash contribution will be effective leverage in obtaining approval of the Government of Pakistan to use U.S.-owned rupees as part of our response to the refugee relief effort.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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Recommendation

That you sign the attached Presidential Decree which authorizes the use of \$5.3 million from the Emergency Fund for assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

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